



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:45 a.m. EST (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - April 1, 2002**

- ***In the West***, record warmth is overspreading ***southern California and the Southwest***, promoting the development of irrigated crops but increasing stress on pastures and dryland small grains.
- ***On the Plains***, a few snow flurries are accompanying the approach of a strong cold front across northern areas, including ***Montana***. Meanwhile from ***Kansas southward***, warm, breezy weather is further stressing winter wheat in fields with inadequate soil moisture, primarily in an area centered on ***southwestern Kansas***. Today's high temperatures are forecast to exceed 80 degrees F on the ***southern High Plains***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, cool weather and rain and snow showers linger in the ***Great Lakes region***. Meanwhile, mild weather prevails across the ***southern Corn Belt***, where soil moisture ranges from slightly short in the ***middle Missouri Valley*** to adequate or locally excessive in the ***Ohio Valley***.
- ***In the South***, weekend rain showers provided much-needed moisture for pastures, winter grains, and recently planted summer crops in the ***southern Atlantic region***, but caused some renewed lowland flooding from ***northeastern Texas to the southern Appalachians***.

**Outlook:** Below-normal temperatures will return to most areas ***east of the Rockies*** during the week. However, in advance of the cold front, several days of warm weather are forecast to prevail across the ***South***. Meanwhile, very warm, dry weather will continue across ***California and the Southwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for April 6-10 calls for persistently warm weather across ***the West***, and a return to above-normal temperatures from ***the Rockies to the East Coast***. Near- to above-normal precipitation is forecast nationwide, except in the ***middle Atlantic region***, where mostly dry weather is expected. Some of the most beneficial and significant precipitation is forecast across the ***southern Rockies and southern Plains***.

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